

**John Patterson to George Washington, August 13, 1758,
Letters to Washington and Accompanying Papers.
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America. Edited by Stanislaus Murray Hamilton.**

FROM MR. JOHN PATTERSON.

ALEXANDRIA August ye. 13th. 1758

HONOURABLE SR.

I have got ye. outside of ye. House finishd, ye. Closets excepted, & that by not having plank; which Mr. Balendine has got a bill for, but having no dependance on his word, shall strive if posible to finish ye. inside according to expectation (in case hands can be got) I have tryd my friends in raising, & kivering, ye. House but those men cannot be prevaild upon to assist me longer, having business of there own to be done. Having consulted Col. Fairfax concerning ye. old floors up Stairs, pasage floor also, informs me, he would write & have your answer, its just ye. Nail holes of ye. latter, looks but indifferent, but ye. Joynts makes amends for that; & in me would be base to take it up, when I am confident, its not in my power to lay a better one, ye. Stuff of it being dry, & when playnd over will have much a better look. As to yr. former floors Col. Fairfax, will write his opinion of them. I Likewise consulted Mr. Triplet of ye. Plan, he says its not in his power to do it, this year, as there is Bricks to be made, & as to ye. other jobs he can compleat. In regard to pleacing ye. Stairs up to ye. Garret, I do not intend to adopt them in ye. Room mentiond, in ye. last Letter, but opposite to ye. head of ye. old Stair Caise, takeing them off from ye. store room that was; & shall advise with Col. Fairfax in this point, as in every other article. I hope to give

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your Hon. a greater sadisfaction by my actions than words, & shall allways remain with ye.
greatest respect, Your Honours Most obligd, Most Hble. & Obedient Servt.

JOHN PATTERSON ¹

¹ The following item in Washington's Ledger is in connection with the repairing or rebuilding of the Mount Vernon mansion: "Sept. 15, 1759. By the amount of your [Patterson's] Acct. for work on my House &c. Including all charges against me to this day. — £ 328.0.5."